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LETTER DATED 19 SEPTEMBER 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SAUDI ARABIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

In my capacity as Chairman of the Arab Group for the month of September 1996, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of resolution 5595 dated 15 September 1996, adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its 106th ordinary session, concerning the occupation by Iran of the Arab islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates in the Arabian Gulf.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Gaafar ALLAGANY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
Chairman of the Arab Group

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Annex

The occupation by Iran of the Arab islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates in the Arabian Gulf

The Council of the League,

Having taken note of the memorandum of the General Secretariat, the final report of the Arab Summit Conference held in Cairo from 21 to 23 June 1996 and the recommendation of the Political Affairs Committee,

Mindful of the Iranian Government's failure to respond to the sincere and serious invitations to seek a peaceful solution to the issue offered by the Arab Summit Conference, the Council of the League of Arab States, the Damascus Declaration countries, the Gulf Cooperation Council and the United Arab Emirates,

Noting the Iranian Government's continuing implementation of measures designed to consolidate its occupation of the three islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates,

Noting also the continuing Iranian violations of the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates,

Mindful of the agreement that the issue should be kept on the list of matters of which the Security Council is seized,

Decides

1. To reaffirm all its previous resolutions on the matter;

2. To renew its affirmation of the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates over the three islands of Greater Tunb, Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa and its unqualified support for all peaceful measures which that State may take in order to regain sovereignty over the islands;

3. To express its condemnation of the Iranian Government's continuing implementation of measures designed to consolidate its occupation of the three islands and its continuing violations of the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates, which seriously endanger security and stability in the region;

4. To renew its call to the Iranian Government to end its occupation of the three islands, suspend its policy of using force to impose the status quo, desist from taking any unilateral measures, remove any installations and rescind any unilateral decisions already imposed on the three islands, and employ peaceful means to resolve the conflict over them in accordance with the principles and rules of international law, which would include accepting that the matter be referred to the International Court of Justice;

5. To state its support for keeping the issue on the list of matters of which the Security Council is seized and to request the Secretary-General to inform the United Nations of the importance of keeping the issue on that list until such time as Iran ends its occupation of the three islands and the United Arab Emirates regains complete sovereignty over them;

6. To request the Secretary-General to pursue this matter and to report thereon to the Security Council in its forthcoming session.

(Resolution 5595/106/3 - 15/9/1996)